Approved F Release 2005/03/07: CIA-RDP80M01 A000400050006-9





CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Executive Registry

Dr. James B. Rhoads Archivist of the United States National Archives Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Rhoads:

We appreciated the opportunity to re-examine the CIA exhibits listed in the 16 March letter of Honorable Richard H. Ichord, Chairman of the House Committee on Internal Security. We will be glad to take this matter up directly with him and to show him copies in our possession.

Since Commission Documents 78 and 872 have been declassified by the Department of Justice, we have no objections to the release into the public domain of CD1545 dated 20 October 1964 and its attachment. We also have no objections to the release of CIA memorandum dated 1 June 1964 (CD1000) providing certain deletions are made to protect intelligence sources and methods. Please refer to the attached copy of this exhibit which has been sanitized slightly for your guidance. The original documents should be preserved intact for future reference. CIA memorandum 31 January 1964 should not be released into the public domain at this time.

We shall be happy to review the above classified material again when the next prescribed review period arrives. Be assured we are most anxious to make our classified exhibits available for research and will continue to do so as the security needs for protecting them diminish.

Since rely,

/s/ Richard Holms

Richard Helms Director

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3 April 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDP

SUBJECT

Release of Documents Furnished to the

President's Commission by the Central

Intelligence Agency

Action

Congressman Ichord, Chairman of the House Committee on Internal Security, has requested National Archives to let him examine Il classified documents related to the investigation of Lee Harvey Oswald. Five of these are CIA exhibits. We recommend as follows:

- 1. That a representative of the Office of the Legislative Counsel, accompanied by a case officer familiar with this matter, visit Representative Ichord.
- 2. That we show him the CIA documents as a qualified official who has a "need to know," but not relinquish them (or copies thereof) to his custody.
- 3. It is my understanding that our relations with Mr. Ichord and his committee are very good.
- 4. An appropriate reply to National Archives for Mr. Helms' signature is attached.

Background

1. The incoming correspondence does not give the reasons for Mr. Ichord's request. He may have been inspired by a news item that caught his eye, or by pressure from Bernard Fensterwald, Jr., and his Committee to Investigate Assassinations which has

been agitating to reopen the case. We liave had considerable correspondence ourselves with Mr. Fensterwald in recent years.

2. For your convenience we have also attached copies of the pertinent documents with appropriate notations.

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Prepared by CI/R&A

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National Archives and Records Service Washington, DC 20408

March 21, 1972



Honorable Richard Helms Director of Central Intelligence Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Helms:

Enclosed are copies of a letter dated March 16, 1972, that we have received from the Chairman of the Committee on Internal Security of the House of Representatives and of our reply.

Mr. Mark G. Eckhoff or Mr. Marion M. Johnson (code 13, ext. 23171) can furnish any additional information that may be needed.

Sincerely,

TAMES B. RHOADS

Archivist of the United States

Enclosure

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National Archives and Records Service Washington, D.C. 20408



March 22, 1972

Honorable Richard H. Ichord House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Ichord:

This is in reply to your letter of March 16, 1972, requesting copies of certain documents among the records of the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy.

Enclosed are copies of Commission Documents 78 and 872, which have been made available for research by the Department of Justice. The remaining documents listed in your letter are withheld from research at the request of the agencies that originated them, and the majority of them beer security classifications.

We have, therefore, referred copies of your letter to the Department of State, the Department of Justice, and the Central Intelligence Agency. We shall inform you as soon as we hear from those agencies.

Singerely,

JAMES B. O'REILL

Acting Archivist of the United States

Enclosures

cc: Honorable Richard Helms V
Central Intelligence

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